GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6800
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2010
HEALTH PROBLEM OF KUTTANADU AREA
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level central health team has visited Kuttanadu area in Kerala in connection with a serious health problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the teams has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) & (b): Yes. A Central expert team consisting of a medical oncologist, a radiotherapist, an epidemiologist, a scientist and an entomologist visited Kuttanadu area in Kerala during 22-26 January 2010 for investigation of reported increase of cancer cases.

(c) & (d): Yes. The team has submitted its report. The report includes the following recommendations:

(i) Linelisting of cancer cases may be done through Primary Health Care Institutions under the supervision and guidance of TD Medical College, Alleppy.

(ii) TD Medical College may form a database of cancer cases seeking treatment in the college.

(iii) The cancer treatment facilities may be strengthened at TD Medical College and Regional Cancer Centre in Trivandrum.

(iv) Quality of drinking water may be examined by the Public Health Engineering Department of Government of Kerala for ensuring safe supply of drinking water.

(v) A systematic epidemiological study of cancer prevalence and incidence may be undertaken.

(vi)Community awareness about cancer may be enhanced.

(e) A copy of the report has been sent to Government of Kerala as Health is a state subject and the institutions/departments mentioned in reply to Parts (c) & (d) above are functioning under the Government of Kerala. Moreover, the Government of India is extending assistance to State Governments including Kerala under the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) for early detection and treatment of cancer patients. The public awareness about cancer is also carried out through electronic and print media.